

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 129170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BPUB, ECON, PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: ECONOMIST STATEMENT ON ARAB BOYCOTT

1. THE ECONOMIST OF MAY 17 CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH IN AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE ISRAELI ECONOMY: QUOTE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ARAB ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAELI GOODS IS BEGINNING TO HURT. THE ARABS ARE NOT ONLY BLACK-LISTING COMPANIES WHICH DEAL DIRECTLY WITH ISRAEL, WHICH THEY HAVE ALWAYS DONE, BUT ALL JEWISH COMPANIES AND ALL COMPANIES WHO EMPLOY JEWS AT THE TOP. MORE AND MORE COMPANIES IN THE OIL-DEPENDENT NATIONS ARE FINDING IT PRUDENT NOT TO ANNOY THE ARABS. END QUOTE. (PAGE 72)

2. IF EMB SEES NO OBJECTION, WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASKING THE ECONOMIST IN LOW-KEY MANNER WHAT THEIR SOURCE IS FOR MIDDLE SENTENCE OF QUOTED PARA. WE HAVE HEARD ONLY OF ISOLATED INSTANCES OF ANTI-SEMITIC APPLICATION OF BOYCOTT AND WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN EVIDENCE OF SYSTEMATIC ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION IN ITS ENFORCEMENT. INGERSOLL

UNCLASSIFIED

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